

**California Regional Water Quality Control Board
Los Angeles Region**

**Executive Officer's Report
Dennis A. Dickerson, Executive Officer**

October 28, 1999

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A. ENFORCEMENT & REMEDIATION

Ballona Oil Spill Enforcement Action Taken

A release of oil to Ballona Creek on Monday, October 11th, resulted in the issuance of a Cleanup and Abatement Order to Wilshire West Partners, owners of the Wilshire Renaissance Apartments at 630 Masselin Ave. in Los Angeles. The spill of at least 500 gallons of oil and tar was observed and reported to the Culver City Fire Department and resulted in cleanup activity by the United States Coast Guard, the California Department of Fish and Game and other emergency responders. The following day, the spill was traced to its point of origin which was a discharge from the Wilshire Renaissance Apartments which operates a small wastewater treatment plant in its parking garage to treat oil seeps and groundwater that enter the parking garage. The discharge of treated water is permitted by the Regional Board under a general permit but the discharge of oil is a violation of their permit conditions.

In response to the spill, Regional Board staff participated in the investigation and upon determining the source of the spill, a Cleanup and Abatement Order was issued which requires the discharger to take appropriate steps to cleanup the oil discharge. Additional enforcement action is under consideration. On Friday, October 15th, the Executive Officer appeared before the Los Angeles City Council to provide an update on Regional Board actions in response to the release. Regional Board staff are conducting follow-up inspections of similar facilities in the immediate area as a precautionary measure to ensure that those facilities are operating properly.

Industrial Storm Water Program Compliance Update

Annual Industrial Storm Water Reports for all Industrial Storm Water General facilities were due on July 1, 1999. Approximately 2,350 annual reports for the 2,800 Industrial Storm Water Facilities within the Region have been received and entered into the SWRCB database by staff. A more detailed review of the annual reports to determine adequacy of the information submitted is being initiated. A Notice of Non-Compliance for Failure to Submit the Annual Reports is being sent out this week as the first level enforcement action. Thirty days will be provided to the Permittees to respond to this request before a second level enforcement action would take place. The Regional Board staff prepared eight ACL's for the October Board Meeting for facilities that have failed to submit annual

reports for previous years.

Malibu Septic System Study

This past summer, the Regional Board initiated an investigation into septic system discharges in the City of Malibu. Sampling of water quality from site along the ocean, Malibu creek and lagoon, and various groundwater wells was performed. This sampling program is continuing and the results are expected to offer additional information on the potential threat to water quality from septic system use in Malibu.

In addition to the sampling program, staff continue to issue 13267 letters, to be followed by Waste Discharge Requirements, to businesses and multiple unit dwellings in the study area. During August 1999, the Enforcement Unit initiated its plan to regulate discharge from commercial and multi-unit septic systems in the vicinity of the Malibu Lagoon. As the first phase of this plan, dischargers are each being required to file a "Report of Waste Discharge" (ROWD). The owners of approximately 80 systems will be issued letters to report their discharges. Approximately 20 letters are sent every other week. Waste Discharge Requirements will be issued for each of the dischargers after the Regional Board receives the ROWD. Currently about 15% of the responses have been received from the commercial dischargers contacted to date.

Enforcement Actions Against Hugo Neu-Proler Company

As required by State Board Order WQ 99-03, the Regional Board conducted an evidentiary hearing on July 8, 1999, to gather information related to alleged water quality problems in Los Angeles Harbor associated with operation of Hugo Neu-Proler Company's Terminal Island scrap metal recycling facility. Several issues of concern were discussed, including past discharges of metal debris and stormwater runoff containing PCBs from the facility. On September 15, 1999, the Executive Officer submitted a status report to the State Board describing the actions taken in this matter.

On September 15, 1999, the Executive Officer issued Cleanup and Abatement Order (CAO) No. 99-077 requiring the Hugo Neu-Proler Company to take action relative to waters of Los Angeles Harbor associated with stormwater runoff and normal operations at the Terminal Island Facility. The CAO requires the Hugo Neu-Proler Company to remove all non-embedded loose scrap metal pieces from the harbor bottom adjacent to Berths 210 and 211 by October 1, 1999; to construct an auto shredder waste materials storage building by December 31, 2001; to implement a pilot upgraded stormwater treatment system by December 1, 1999; and complete on-site stormwater treatment upgrades by December 31, 2001. The CAO also directs the Hugo Neu-Proler Company to submit quarterly reports outlining progress towards implementation of the required actions; the first quarterly progress report covering the period from October-December 1999 is due on January 31, 2000.

On September 15, 1999, the Executive Officer also issued Administrative Civil Liability (ACL) Complaint No. 99-086 against the Hugo Neu-Proler Company for violations of the California Water Code. Hugo Neu-Proler Company is alleged to have violated the Basin Plan water quality objective prohibiting the discharge of polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs). For the three-year period beginning September 1, 1996, and ending August 31, 1999, the Hugo Neu-Proler Company is alleged to have discharged stormwater runoff containing PCBs from its Terminal Island scrap metal recycling facility (located at 901 New Dock Street) into Los Angeles Harbor on six occasions. The ACL seeks a penalty of \$25,000, of which \$5,000 would be paid into the Cleanup and Abatement Fund and \$20,000 would be committed to Supplemental Environmental Projects.

On September 14, 1999, the Executive Officer issued an Administrative Civil Liability to the Los Angeles Refining Company for violating requirements contained in Board Order 84-053. A penalty of

\$700,000 was assessed and is not being contested by Equilon which has already paid a portion of the penalty allocated to the Cleanup and Abatement Account. Funding of Supplemental Environmental Projects is being evaluated.

Los Angeles Turf Club

On September 10, 1999, the Executive Officer issued a Cleanup and Abatement Order requiring the Los Angeles Turf Club to clean up and abate non-stormwater discharges from the Los Angeles Turf Club. Information was provided to the Regional Board indicating a discharge of process wastewater in violation of the Basin plan requirements. Staff also issued a 13267 letter to the discharger on September 24, 1999.

Beazer Homes of Southern California

On September 1, 1999, the Executive Officer issued to Beazer Homes of Southern California an ACL for illegally discharging sediment-laden wash water into the storm drain, failing to file a notice of intent (NOI), and failing to implement the requirements of the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) General Permit for Storm Water Discharges Associated with Construction Activity (State Board Order No. 92-08-DWQ). A penalty of \$70,700 was assessed. Beazer has paid the portion of their penalty required for the Cleanup and Abatement Account and is proposing a Supplemental Environmental Project for Board review and approval.

Malibu Water Pollution Control Plant

The County of Los Angeles, DPW is upgrading the Malibu Water Pollution Control Plant under a Time Schedule Order (TSO) issued by this Board. The plant is over 30 years old and in need of major rehabilitation. The County has requested a one-year extension to the TSO in order to secure a Coastal Commission approval, a State Revolving Fund (SRF) loan and to prepare a more detailed CEQA document. The request is under consideration.

Board Order No. 98-088 specifies that the maximum daily flow to the Malibu WWTP plant shall not exceed 37,500 gallons per day (gpd) with the provision that an additional 22 condominiums could increase the flow to 45,000 gpd. The County has proposed to increase the design capacity (maximum design flow) of the plant. Staff is currently evaluating the proposed change to the WDRs.

Y2K Conference

The City of Los Angeles sponsored a conference, on September 22, 1999, addressing the need for Y2K contingency planning for wastewater collection and treatment systems. At this conference, the City and Y2K consultants shared "lessons learned" and expertise in Y2K testing and planning. Although the conference was not well attended by other dischargers, valuable information was presented. By the end of October, the City will be sending copies of a "model" contingency plan and other conference materials to dischargers who did not attend.

Chandler Landfill (Palos Verdes)

On October 12, 1999, Regional Board staff member Wen Yang attended a public hearing meeting at the City Council of Rolling Hills Estates. The hearing was about how to remove approximately 2200 cubic yards of lead contaminated soil that was disposed at the Chandler's Inert Landfill in July of this year from an old shooting range in the City of Rancho Palos Verdes. At the meeting, Dr. Yang restated our position that the disposal of contaminated soil at the inert landfill violated the landfill's Waste Discharge Requirements and must be removed from the landfill and relocated to a legal disposal site. Because the rainy season will begin soon, the waste must be removed as soon as

possible. Dr. Yang also answered questions from the mayor, the city council members, and concerned community residents regarding the details of Waste Discharge Requirements, groundwater monitoring results, and past Board staff inspections at the landfill.

B. SURFACE WATER UPDATES

Total Maximum Daily Loads (TMDLs)

Litter Conference in December

The Regional Board, Keep California Beautiful and USC are jointly sponsoring a litter conference in December. The conference will focus on the issue related to urban litter and its impacts to our waterways. The target audience is both municipalities and commercial establishments that produce much of the litter that is found in our rivers and on our beaches. The format of the conference is designed to provide both education and allow attendees to participate in the development of solutions. For more information on the conference please call Jonathan Bishop at (213) 576-6622.

Conference: Achieving Success in the TMDL Program

On September 29, 1999, at the University of Southern California, the Regional Board, the City of Los Angeles Department of Public Works and USC, hosted a public conference on TMDLs. Chair David Nahai presided over this well-received and well-attended program which featured Alexis Strauss, the Director of the USEPA Region 9 Water Division, Mary Jane Forster of the State Water Resource Control Board, and speakers representing environmental, public, municipal, agriculture, and industrial communities.

Discussion topics included 1) the evolving regulatory framework, 2) TMDLs in the Los Angeles Region, 3) challenges in supporting programs, 4) implementing pollutant load reductions and 5) evaluating the success of TMDLs. Keynote speakers included Dr. Thomas Fikslin, Head of the Modeling and Monitoring Branch of the Delaware River Basin Commission, with 30 years of TMDL experience and Dr. James Karr, Professor of the Department of Zoology at the University of Washington. Dr. Karr is the founder of the indicator of biological integrity measure.

Beaches Conference

On August 30, 1999, US EPA hosted a 2-day conference focussed on bacterial contamination that have impacted the beaches of Southern California. Regional Board staff members from the TMDL, Watershed Regulatory and the Executive Office attended. Speakers included both local and national experts on the sources of bacterial contamination, methods for monitoring and evaluation of bacterial data.

TMDL Guidance

As part of the Los Angeles Region's TMDL Consent Decree US EPA agreed to prepare California specific TMDL guidance that will be used by staff until the proposed national guidance is finalized. To this end US EPA convened an informal adversary to panel help develop the guidance. Region 4 staff member Jonathan Bishop represented the Regional Board on the panel. The group has meet three times and the draft document is expected by the end of October.

Calleguas Creek - Chloride TMDL Activities

On Friday, September 24, 1999, from 10:00 am to 12:30 pm at Calleguas Municipal Water District, 2100 Olsen Road, Thousand Oaks, California, 91360-6800, Regional Board staff Deborah Smith

and Elizabeth Erickson presented the status of the current work on the chloride TMDL. Staff are preparing to bring a Basin Plan Amendment to the Board on January 20, 1999. Please call Jon Bishop at (213) 576-6681 or Elizabeth Erickson at (213) 576-6683 should you have any questions.

Santa Clara River - Chloride Policy Public Meeting

A public meeting was held on Wednesday evening, September 22 from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. in Santa Clarita City Council Chambers. Regional Board staff presented an overview and gathered public comment on a staff proposal to raise the chloride objective for the Santa Clara River near Santa Clarita and Santa Paula. Comments became part of the public record and Board response will be included in the Basin Plan Amendment.

The next step for the Santa Clara River chloride policy is final Board presentation on December 9, 1999. A draft of the Basin Plan Amendment will be available about October 21. Please call Jon Bishop at (213) 576-6681 or Elizabeth Erickson at (213) 576-6683 should you have any questions.

Calleguas Creek 205(j) TAC

On October 6, 1999, the Technical Advisory Committee (TAC), for the Calleguas Creek Watershed 205(j) Project, held its second meeting. In attendance were Don Kendall, General Manager for Calleguas Municipal Water District, POTW representatives from the Cities, Larry Walker and Associates (LWA), and Regional Board staff. LWA presented the monitoring results from two dry weather and two wet weather sampling events, and recommended that they select Phosphate/algae as the second preliminary TMDL that would be developed under the 205(j) grant.

C. GROUNDWATER UPDATES

Belmont Learning Complex

On October 4, 1999, Jim Kuykendall attended a meeting of the Los Angeles Unified School District's Commission that is investigating the Belmont Learning Center. The Regional Board was requested to present information concerning our activities on the project. That involvement was limited to: A) review and comment the environmental document on the project, B) issuance of 4 general permits for hauling a total of 72,100 cubic yards of soil to Bradley landfill where it could be used for daily cover of the municipal waste, C) approval for use of 5000 cubic yards of minimally impacted soil as fill at the school soccer field, and D) responses to concerns raised about school sites in the last year.

Charnock Sub-basin MTBE Investigation Area

At present there are 25 active sites in the Charnock Sub-Basin. Of the 25 active sites, site assessment has been completed at 16 sites, whereas there are 9 sites where additional site assessment is either underway or planned to be performed in the near future. Groundwater monitoring is being performed at all the sites. Quarterly groundwater monitoring reports are received, reviewed, and commented upon on within a short time. Three sites have submitted site remedial action plans. The remedial action plans for soil and groundwater cleanups have been approved. Two of the sites needed to pump-and-treat the groundwater and discharge it to the storm drain under an NPDES permit. The NPDES permits were approved by the Regional Board during the July 8, 1999 Board meeting. Soil remediation has begun at one of the sites. Soil and groundwater remediation will be initiated in the near future at the two other sites. Area wide assessment is underway to determine the contamination pathway from the Venice and Sepulveda intersection to the Charnock Wellfield.

Staff performs a project status update telephone conference with the interested parties and USEPA. Staff also attends meetings and participates in telephone conferences to discuss the pilot project cleanup alternatives for the remediation of the groundwater.

On September 22, 1999, the Executive Officer and EPA issued separate enforcement orders to Shell Oil Company/Shell Oil Products Company/Equilon Enterprises LLC (collectively called Shell) for water replacement costs. The Orders were issued to ensure the residence of the City of Santa Monica and Culver City continue to receive historic water supplies in the wake of MTBE groundwater pollution at the Charnock Wellfields. The enforcement Orders require Shell to either provide replacement water of a suitable quality or to pay the City of Santa Monica and Southern California Water Company to purchase replacement water. The cost to purchase replacement water is estimated at \$3.5 million per year. Shell must commence payment or provide replacement water starting on January 7, 1999.

A CAO was also issued to CONOCO in April 1999. The CAO required CONOCO to perform site investigation in a tiered approach with on-site soil and groundwater investigation to be followed by off-site assessment and data interpretation of the subsurface lithology. Following the issuance of CAO, staff had a meeting with representatives of CONOCO on May 11, 1999. Tier One work has been initiated at the site under direction from the Regional Board and USEPA.

Arcadia Wellfield MTBE Investigation

Cleanup of the shallow aquifer in the vicinity of the former Mobil Station 18-LDM is being accomplished with a pump and treat system that has been in operation since October 1997. The treatment system is capable of pumping 35 gallon per minutes (GPM) of extracted groundwater water. Currently, approximately 5 to 6 GPM of groundwater are being pumped from 12 groundwater extraction wells. To date (9/14/99), the treatment system has pumped approximately 5.66 million gallons of polluted groundwater and has removed an estimated 49.3 pounds of TPH and 166.8 pounds of MTBE. Contaminated soil within the vadose zone is being treated with a vapor extraction system (VES) which started operation during May 1999.

A Production Aquifer Remediation System (PARS) using activated carbon filtering to clean up the production aquifer has been designed and approved by this Regional Board. In a public hearing by City of Los Angeles Planning Department on August 12, 1999, the variance application for the installation of PARS has been approved. Mobil is in the process of selecting a bidder to construct the PARs by the end of October 1999.

A Remedial Action Plan to clean up the MTBE contamination in the lower aquifer was approved on May 21, 1999, and Mobil is in the process of selecting a subcontractor to build the lower aquifer remediation system (LARS) by the end of October 1999.

Geographic Information System (GIS) Update

In response to the Governor's Executive Order D-5-99, UST Section staff are continuing with their efforts to integrate the use of GIS into the leaking underground storage tank case review, evaluation, and closure process. To date, the core data, which includes updated production well locations, recharge areas and LUST sites, have been obtained for the San Fernando Valley and the San Gabriel Valley. These efforts are approximately 95 percent complete and UST staff is starting to focus efforts on the Central and West Coast Groundwater Basins. Current efforts involve obtaining the necessary spatial data from several state, county, and local agencies. To reach this goal, staff met with representatives from other local agencies to lay the groundwork for a regional GIS data exchange/user group.

UST Working Group Meeting

The seventh UST Working Group meeting was held at the Regional Board office on September 29, 1999. A total of 26 people attended the meeting. The attendees included representatives from major oil companies, environmental consultants, local regulatory agencies, municipal government, environmental lawyer, environmental organization, special interest group, and Regional Board staff. Because the soil-sampling procedure is a current topic of interest, many Regional Board staff in the groundwater division also attended as a training session.

Mr. Mark Weiner of Del Mar Analytical was the featured speaker for this meeting on the subject of the new EPA Method 5035. The method is a sampling preparation procedural method for VOC analysis of soil samples. Because this analytical method is relevant and applicable to soil samples to be analyzed for MTBE, it drew great interests from the audience. Regional Board staff, David Bacharowski, presented update on the Governor's Executive Order D-5-99 regarding tasks relating to MTBE. Regional Board staff, Joe Luera, presented the progress on Regional Board GIS efforts responding to the Governor's Order D-5-99. The update presentations were well received and resulted in many questions and open discussion from participants.

The next meeting is tentatively scheduled for January 13, 2000. The potential topics of interest identified by the Working Group members included; (1) alternative remedial technologies for UST sites, (2) microbiology of natural attenuation, and (3) fate and transport modeling approach developed by Regional Board staff for MTBE plume length estimate.

Completion of Corrective Action at Leaking Underground Fuel Storage Tank Sites

Board staff have reviewed corrective actions taken for soil and groundwater contamination problems from leaking UST's for the time of August 28, 1999, through October 8, 1999, and determined that no further corrective actions are required:

Chevron Products Company Service Station No. 9-4031, Bellflower (I-00104)
Former Chevron Product Company Service Station No. 20-6008, El Monte (R-04640)
Former Mobil Oil Company Service Station No. 18-FTL, Los Angeles (913030025)
Maddox Productions, Signal Hill (I-16692)
Palos Verdes Peninsula Unified School District Maintenance Yard, Rolling Hills (I-11908)

D. COASTAL WATERS/ WATERSHEDS UPDATES

Calleguas Creek Watershed

The Water Quality/Water Resources Subcommittee met on August 6. Updates on TMDLs and strategies for reduction of nitrogen by POTWs were major topics of discussion. The Subcommittee is currently in the process of drafting a Water Resources/Water Quality Chapter in the Calleguas Creek Watershed Management Plan, which has gone out for in-house agency review.

Subcommittee members have developed a list of their goals and objectives for water quality and water resources and are working to clarify participants' goals and objectives, identify possible solutions to problems, pinpoint concrete actions which will be taken to address the problems, filter out long-term from short-term goals, and reach agreement on what issues to deal with first. Agricultural best management practices (BMPs) and concerns over use of household water softeners and their contributions of chlorides to treatment plants are two early action items that have been identified.

The Flood Protection/Sedimentation Subcommittee last met on September 13. They are currently involved with discussions on conducting a hydrologic study of the watershed and the need for historic photographs to evaluate changes in sedimentation over time.

The Public Education/Outreach Subcommittee has completed the first edition of a newsletter to

cover watershed issues and events. It will eventually have its own website with links to other web pages. Additionally, the group has produced a draft brochure on the management plan process in the watershed. The subcommittee last met on September 2 and October 5.

The Habitat/Recreation Subcommittee met on August 10 and continues work on a wetlands study which includes a habitat-mapping component. The subcommittee will next meet on October 12.

The Steering Committee for the Watershed Management Plan met on September 30 and continues work on its expectations/products for 1999. A draft Table of Contents for the Calleguas Creek Watershed Management Plan being developed has been prepared.

The full Management Committee met on May 24. Information about the management committee and its subcommittees can be found at <http://www.calleguas.com/>

Data generated by the Surface Water Element of the Calleguas Creek Characterization Study Monitoring Program is being evaluated. Monitoring associated with the Groundwater Element of the program is now being implemented. Another component of the program, funded by Clean Water Act 205(j) monies, is evaluating nonpoint source contributions and is in the data analysis stage.

Los Angeles River Watershed

The Los Angeles and San Gabriel Rivers Watershed Council meets on the third Wednesday of each month. The next meeting will be held on October 20. The Council's Internet address is <http://muspin.gsfc.nasa.gov/Prime/water.html>. The Friends of the LA River now has a Los Angeles River e-mail discussion forum. To subscribe, e-mail to la-river-discuss-subscribe@makelist.com. To view archives of past Los Angeles River discussions on the Internet, go to <http://www.egroups.com/list/la-river-discuss>. On August 10, members of the Watershed Council assisted the California Coastal Conservancy in conducting a tour of potential restoration sites in the lower watershed as part of a meeting of the Southern California Wetlands Recovery Project. These sites may be viewed at <http://www.coastalconservancy.ca.gov/scwrp/index.html>.

Santa Monica Bay Watershed

The Modeling and Monitoring Subcommittee of the Malibu Creek Watershed Advisory Council has drafted a watershed-wide monitoring program for the Malibu Creek Watershed. The group last met on May 6; a draft monitoring program has been distributed to stakeholders for comment. A major task soon will be finding partners to participate in this voluntary program to assess and help correct the water quality concerns in this area.

The Malibu Lagoon Task Force last met on September 14. The Task Force is concerned with lagoon breaching, the septic tracer study, and all aspects of the UCLA study of the lagoon. The UCLA study covers a hydrologic evaluation, appropriateness of various biological and water quality objectives, water level management, eutrophication issues, pathogens, and the historical condition of the lagoon. The study was funded by a California Coastal Conservancy grant with assistance by local agencies. A recently hired facilitator is now leading the group toward refining the future goals of the Task Force. The next meeting of the group is scheduled for October 19.

The Malibu Creek Watershed Advisory Council last met on August 17 and included a report on subcommittee activities. Its next meeting will be held on October 19, after the Task Force meeting.

A watershed committee has been meeting in the Topanga Creek Watershed. The most recent meeting was held on September 16 and included a discussion of an upcoming streambank

stabilization workshop as well as presentations on road and bridge repair by CalTrans and LA County Department of Public Works representatives. A major near-term goal of this watershed committee is to prioritize potential actions previously identified in a draft Topanga Creek Watershed Management Study and start a coordinated resource management planning (CRMP) process. A longer-term goal is preparation of a watershed management plan that will help address a number of issues including flood control in the canyon. The next meeting of the watershed committee is scheduled for October 21. The committee's website address is <http://www.TopangaOnline.com/twc/>.

A newly formed Technical Advisory Committee to the Topanga Creek Water Quality Study (funded through 205(j) monies) met for the first time on June 15 to help guide the project.

Watershed Management Initiative Chapter

Each Regional Board has completed the process of producing a "chapter" on how that Board is implementing watershed management in the Region. The consolidated statewide chapter will become the basis for funding decisions including allocating money for monitoring, TMDL development, and grant monies disbursement. This Region's Chapter was last updated in May 1999. The next update is due in January 2000 and will include information on Regional Board implementation of the state's upgraded nonpoint source management program. Copies of this Region's current Chapter and/or its Executive Summary may be obtained by contacting the Regional Board office, Regional Programs Section secretary. The document may also be sent out electronically (in MSWord6.0). Additionally, the Executive Summary will be posted on the Regional Board's webpage by the end of this year.

319(h)/205(j) Request for Proposals

Proposals for region-specific 319(h)/205(j) grant funds have been reviewed and ranked by staff at the Regional Board and the ranked list was sent to State Board. A preliminary statewide ranking was undertaken by the Watershed Management Initiative (WMI) Workgroup on July 27 and 28, 1999. A recommended ranking will be brought before the State Board for adoption in October. Final funding is subject to USEPA approval.

E. PUBLIC OUTREACH ACTIVITIES

Jon Bishop gave an overview of the TMDL process as part of a panel, which focused on our TMDL challenges, at the California Storm Water Quality Task Force on September 10, 1999. Jon outlined how the consent agreement, which was signed in March 1999, schedules the first 29 TMDLs, lays out a minimum pace per year as well as our overall mandate to complete all TMDLs in 13 years. He also stressed the issues which this process raises, such as increased monitoring and limitations on how to collect data or address last minute comments.

On September 16, 1999, the Executive Officer and Dr. Xavier Swamikannu provided a presentation to a Code Enforcement held at the Holiday Inn in San Buenaventura. The presentation provided a background on the role of the Regional Board in protecting water quality and implementing the NPDES program, then moved to providing examples of the history of the Ventura County municipal storm water permit and a recent enforcement action. Questions mostly related to the new construction general permit and the similar programs required under municipal permits.

On September 21st, the Executive Officer and Dr. Xavier Swamikannu participated in the APWA's conference in Ontario on the General Construction Stormwater Permit issued by the State Board and gave a presentation on compliance aspects of the new permit.

Building Industry Association Presentation

On September 23, 1999, staff presented a Regional Board perspective on the implementation of the new construction general permit to the Land Development Forum of Building Industry Association of Southern California. The Forum, held at the Airtel Plaza Hotel in Van Nuys, was attended by a mix of staff from land development companies as well as project managers and field superintendents for projects in southern California.

On October 1, 1999, Regional Board staff, Weixing Tong, presented a seminar for a graduate class of Environmental Engineering Program in the Department of Civil Engineering, University of Southern California. His presentation was entitled "Estimate of MTBE Plume Length Using Domenico Analytical Model." He introduced the results of ongoing Regional Board studies of MTBE plume length, including the methodology and 90 case studies. The audience included faculty members, graduate students, and undergraduate students. The presentation was well received and appreciated.

On October 5, 1999, Jim Kuykendall gave a presentation about the Regional Board and how we are using GIS tools to assess the protection of water resources in the Region. The emphasis was on groundwater pollution and how the use of GIS information can improve the identification of risk to water supply wells from industrial and commercial facilities that have chemical releases.

On October 6th, Executive Officer Dennis Dickerson was a featured guest on "The Larry Zarian Show" - a radio program airing daily from 5 to 7 p.m. on KIEV 870 AM. Mr. Zarian, a former LARWQCB member and former Mayor of Glendale, asked Mr. Dickerson to speak regarding the proposed rules to reduce storm water runoff from new developments. This was followed by some questions from listeners, which provided the opportunity to further explain the importance of controlling runoff. All in all, the 15-minute interview proceeded smoothly and was over at approximately 6:15 p.m.

On October 7th, the Executive Officer attended a session of the UCLA Law Clinic and provided an overview of Regional Board activities to the Clinic's staff. Several students from the Clinic are assisting the Regional Board in reviewing industrial stormwater permit case files.

On October 7, 1999, Regional Board staff David Bacharowski participated in the annual Toxic Substances and Hazardous Waste 1999 Legislative and Regulatory Update, sponsored by the University of California-Irvine. Representatives from various industries, legal, banking, environmental consultants and the public attend this annual event. Presentations on a variety of subjects included; recent developments in the Superfund Program (Brownfields), DTSC-California Site Mitigation Program (Voluntary Site Program), current regulatory and environmental trends, and recent developments in the South Coast Air Quality Management District. Regional Board staff presented "MTBE and Emerging Issues in Groundwater Quality."

F. ADMINISTRATIVE UPDATE

Freedom of Information Act and Public Records Act Requests for the Month of August 1999

Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) requests and Public Record Act (PRA) requests to review or copy public documents are a very important part of the work at the Regional Board. The FOIA and PRA cover most of the documents at the Regional Board. The State legislature adopted statutory language requiring that these requests be tracked by the Regional Boards. The FOIA and PRA require agencies to provide a response on the availability of the requested document within 10 working days (FOIA) or 10 calendar days (PRA) of receiving the request. The Regional Board has a procedure to respond to, and a database to track, these requests.

During the month of August 1999, 10 FOIA / PRA requests were received and processed. A response was provided within the mandated time frame for all requests.

Personnel Report

As of the month of September our staff was 108; 89 technical staff (including 2 part-time technical staff), 5 permanent administrative support staff, and 14 permanent clerical staff.

Staff is currently taking steps to fill 1 Unit Chief position, 17 technical positions, 2 Associate Governmental Program Analysts, and 1 Associate Information Systems Analyst.

Since August, the following appointments have been made:

GuiJun (Jeffrey) Hu, Associate Water Resource Control Engineer with the Site Cleanup Unit, appointed 9/1/99.

Tracy Belles, Environmental Specialist II with the Ventura Coastal Unit, appointed 9/27/99.

SUMMARY OF ENFORCEMENT ACTIONS - AUGUST 1 to 31, 1999

Formal Enforcement Actions

Cleanup and Abatement Order	1
Administrative Civil Liability	1

Administrative Enforcement Actions

Permit violations	2
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Administrative Enforcement Actions for Overdue / Incomplete Reports

Discharge Monitoring Reports	2
Groundwater monitoring reports	9
Other technical reports	2
Site assessment plans	3
Site assessment reports	2
Site remedial action plans	2

Administrative Enforcement Actions for Stormwater Permits

Failed to comply with permit requirements	3
Failed to submit storm water annual report	1

Total Enforcement Actions for August	28
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SUMMARY OF ENFORCEMENT ACTIONS - SEPTEMBER 1 to 30, 1999

Formal Enforcement Actions

Cleanup and Abatement Order	4
Administrative Civil Liability	10

Administrative Enforcement Actions

Permit violations	1
Pretreatment program deficiencies	1
Failure to comply with a CAO	1

Administrative Enforcement Actions for Overdue / Incomplete Reports

Discharge Monitoring Reports	1
Groundwater monitoring reports	7
Other technical reports	4
Site assessment plans	3
Site remedial action plans	1

Administrative Enforcement Actions for Stormwater Permits

Failed to comply with permit requirements	2
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Total Enforcement Actions for September	35
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SPILLS REPORTED DURING AUGUST 1999

Chemical	7
Crude oil	4
Diesel	14
Gasoline	3
Miscellaneous petroleum products	12
Oil	7
Other	5
Sewage	8
Waste water	3
Vapors	8
Drill Spills (Table Top Exercises)	2

Total	73
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SPILLS WHICH ENTERED WATERWAYS OR WATERS

Chemical	2
Crude oil	1
Diesel	10
Gasoline	1
Miscellaneous petroleum products	6
Oil	2
Other	3
Sewage	5
Waste water	2

Total	32
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